

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A weldable fastener for welding to a metal surface comprising:

a fastener head having a first head thickness between a head top surface and head bottom surface;

an externally threaded shank disposed on the top surface; and

an annular weldment area disposed on the bottom surface having a second head thickness between the head bottom surface and a flat annular weldment surface, said second head thickness being between about 20% to about 35% of the first head thickness, wherein said annular weldment area, said bottom surface, and metal surface define a non-welded cavity upon welding of said annular weldment area to the metal surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The weldable fastener according to Claim 1 wherein said head has an exterior wall having a first exterior radius and said annular weldment area has a second exterior radius equal to the first exterior radius.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The weldable fastener according to Claim 1 wherein said shank comprises a weakened section position adjacent to said head.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The weldable fastener according to Claim 1 wherein the first head thickness is greater than 1.5 mm.

7. (Original) The weldable fastener according to Claim 1 wherein the first head thickness is greater than 2.0 mm.

8-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A weld fastener for welding to a metal surface comprising:

a longitudinally elongated shank;

a laterally enlarged head extending from an end of the shank having a head thickness; and

a substantially annular weldment section longitudinally extending from the head opposite the shank, said annular section having a thickness which is 20% to 35% of the head thickness;

wherein a welding surface of the annular section is substantially flat along a lateral plane substantially parallel to a lateral plane of the head, prior to welding, and

wherein said annular weldment section defines a circular non-welded cavity between the metal surface and the head upon welding of the annular section to the metal surface.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Original) The weldable fastener according to Claim 23 wherein said head has an exterior wall having a first exterior radius and said annular weldment area has a second exterior radius equal to the first exterior radius.

26. (Previously Presented) The weldable fastener according to Claim 23 wherein the elongated shank is an externally threaded shank.

27. (Previously Presented) The weldable fastener according to Claim 23 wherein said shank comprises a weakened section portion adjacent to said head.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The weldable fastener according to Claim 23 wherein the first thickness is greater than 1.5 mm.

30. (Previously Presented) The weldable fastener according to Claim 23 wherein the first thickness is greater than 2.0 mm.

31.-52 (Cancelled)